

## STATE MOTTO

Nearly every State has adopted a motto, generally in Latin, for the reason that Latin is more condensed and terse than English. The motto of North Carolina, "Esse Quam Videri" means "to be rather than to seem." It is found in Cicero's essay on Friendship (Chapter 26), where he says, "Virtue enim ipsa non tam multi preediti esse quam videri," meaning when translated literally, "for indeed not so many wish to be endowed with virtue as wish to seem to be."



## STATE SEAL

The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina is two and one-quarter inches in diameter, and its design is a representation of the figures of Liberty and Plenty, looking towards each other, but not more than half fronting each other, and otherwise disposed as follows: Liberty, the first figure standing, her pole with cap on it in her left hand and a scroll with the word "Constitution" inscribed thereon in her right hand. Plenty, the second figure, sitting down, her right arm half extended toward Liberty, three heads of wheat in her right hand, and in her left the small end of her horn, the mouth of which is resting at her feet, and the contents of horn rolling out. In the exergue is inserted the words "May 20, 1775," above the coat of arms. Around the circumference is the legend: "The Great Seal of the State of North Carolina," and the motto, "Esse Quam Videri."

## STATE FLOWER

The dogwood was adopted as the official State flower of North Carolina by the General Assembly of 1941.

## STATE BIRD

By an act of the General Assembly of 1943 the Cardinal was declared to be the official State Bird of North Carolina. (Cover illustration courtesy N. C. Bird Club.)